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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kobayashi et al. I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Serial No. 09/187,700 Washington, D. Filed: November 6, 1998 Date P-CLASS.WCM For: STORAGE MEDIUM AND METHOD Appr. Pebruary 20, 1998 Attorney for Applicant AND APPARATUS FOR SEPARATELY) PROTECTING DATA IN DIFFERENT) AREAS OF THE STORAGE MEDIUM) (as amended) Art Unit: 2132 Examiner: Newton, G. <u>AMENDMENT B</u>

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed September 25, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 8, 15, 18 and 19 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A storage medium data protecting method of protecting data on a storage medium, comprising: